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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/655,859	09/05/2003	John A. Barton	2003-IP-010400 U1 USA	7274
7590 12/21/2004			EXAMINER	
Albert C. Metrailer			CHAMBERS, TROY	
Conley Rose 5700 Granite Parkway, Suite 330			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
Plano, TX 75024-6616			3641	
			DATE MAII ED: 12/21/2002	1

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

·		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summary		10/655,859	BARTON ET AL.	ţ			
		Examiner	Art Unit				
		Troy Chambers	3641				
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communication apports. The MAILING DATE of this communication apports.	pears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence addre	ess			
THE - Exte after - If the - If NC - Failu Any	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPL MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Insions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1. SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. It period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period are to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing ed patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be ting ly within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) day will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from e, cause the application to become ABANDONE	nely filed s will be considered timely. the mailing date of this commodities D (35 U.S.C. § 133).	nunication.			
Status							
1)	Responsive to communication(s) filed on						
2a) <u></u>							
3)	3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is						
	closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.						
Disposit	ion of Claims						
4)🖂)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-28</u> is/are pending in the application.						
	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.						
5)	5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8)区	Claim(s) 1-28 are subject to restriction and/or	election requirement.					
Applicat	ion Papers						
9)[The specification is objected to by the Examine	er.					
10)	10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.						
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.							
11)[The bath or declaration is objected to by the E	xammer. Note the attached Office	Action or form PTO	-152.			
Priority (under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
•	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign	n priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).				
a) All b) Some * c) None of:							
	1. Certified copies of the priority documen		ion No				
	2. Certified copies of the priority documen3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority			łane			
	application from the International Burea	•	sa iii tiiis ivational ot	.age			
* (See the attached detailed Office action for a list		ed.				
		•					
Attachmer	nt(s)						
· <u> </u>	ce of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) Interview Summary					
	ce of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) mation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08	Paper No(s)/Mail D 5) Notice of Informal F		152)			
	Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6) Other:						

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DETAILED ACTION

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Election/Restrictions

- 1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-18, drawn to a detonator system for detonating cord, classified in class 102, subclass 275.11.
 - II. Claims 19-28, drawn to a method for detonating cord in a borehole, classified in class 102, subclass 313.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

- 2. Inventions II and ! are related as process and apparatus for its practice. The inventions are distinct if it can be shown that either: (1) the process as claimed can be practiced by another materially different apparatus or by hand, or (2) the apparatus as claimed can be used to practice another and materially different process. (MPEP § 806.05(e)). In this case the process does not require a firing head having upper and lower sealing surfaces the upper sealing surface adapted for forming a fluid and pressure seal with a firing sub.
- 3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.
- 4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

6. A telephone call was made to Paul Herman on 12/17/04 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Troy Chambers whose telephone number is 703-308-5870. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 a.m. - 5 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Troy Chambers can be reached on 703-308-5870. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Troy Chambers Examiner Art Unit 3641

TC